

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 8 of page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A computer apparatus, such as a notebook personal computer (notebook PC), can be connected to a Local Area Network (LAN) through an interface device such as a Network Interface Card (NIC) or the LAN adapter. Today the dominant interface device is a wired communication adapter such as a Token-Ring adapter and/or an Ethernet adapter. However, a wireless LAN adapter may likely receive heightened attention or use in the future. The LAN adapter transmits and intercepts a command and communicates data to and from driver software such as the NDIS (Network Driver Interface Specification) or ODI (Open Datalink Interface) drivers. These drives conform to different specifications depending on which operating system (OS) environment is used and can control a LAN adapter under the control of the OS.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 4 of page 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A wired communication adapter, such as a Token-Ring or Ethernet adapter, for connecting a computer to a LAN segment through a cable is used with today's system. In the future, a wireless card, that is, a wireless LAN adapter for the connection to the LAN segment through an access point without the use of cables, will be introduced, as mentioned earlier. In such a case, a first communication adapter may be connected to a given LAN segment through a wireless access point and a second communication adapter may be connected to the same LAN

segment through a cable. Also, they may be connected to separate LAN segments.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 13 of page 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Many models of notebook PCs support a docking station (dock). The docking station is an expansion unit for notebook PC and has a housing that serves as a base for the notebook PC and contains a CD-ROM drive, floppy-disk drive, expansion slots, and other components. A configuration may be considered in which one of the communication adapters is supported by the docking station and the other adapter is provided in the main unit of the notebook PC. The docking station is often used on a desktop. Users want to use a wireless LAN while they are off their desk and use a communication adapter provided in the docking station to connect to a LAN segment while they are at their desk. However, there is no switching capability that supports this capability at present.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 4 of page 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The present invention has been made to solve these technical problems and it is an object of the present invention to provide, in a portable information device and/or computer apparatus such as a notebook PC, a user interface that selects an entity that is connected to the portable information device and/or computer apparatus for communications.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 20 of page 7 with the following rewritten

paragraph:

At least one of the communication adapters installed in the portable information device is a wireless LAN adapter and the priority of the wireless LAN adapter set in said read priority information is immediately below the priority of the communication adapter installed in the expansion unit. This configuration is preferable in that wireless communication is performed by using a higher-priority wireless LAN adapter when the portable information device is not connected to an expansion unit such as a docking station, and a communication adapter installed in the expansion unit that provides better communication conditions can be selected to perform communication if the device is connected to the expansion unit.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 1 of page 9 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The present invention also provides a computer apparatus for selecting a given communication adapter in a system environment in which a plurality of communication adapters are installed to communicate with an external entity, the computer apparatus comprising: information storage for storing information identifying among the plurality of communication adapters installed in the system a communication adapter specified by a user as a communication adapter to be enabled; determination means for determining whether the plurality of communication adapters installed in the system are available and; setting means for enabling, among communication adapters determined to be available by the determination means, the communication adapter specified by the user as the communication adapter to be enabled in the

information storage.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 11 of page 10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Viewed in another way, the present invention provides a computer apparatus in which a plurality of communication adapters such as a NIC are installed, the computer apparatus communicating with an external entity through the plurality of communication adapters and comprising: a utility for controlling the enabling/disabling of the communication adapters; and a driver such as NDIS for exchanging data between the utility and the communication adapter; wherein the utility provides a suspend (a mode that stops operations and shuts down power supply while maintaining the execution status of a program after no input is received for a predetermined period of time) event to the driver if a communication adapter to be enabled is not enabled previously or provides a resume (a mode that saves the status of an operation immediately before shut-down so that the operation can be restarted from the point at which the operation is interrupted when the power is supplied subsequently) event to the driver if the communication adapter to be enabled is enabled and requested to be disabled.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 10 of page 12 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The present invention also provides a storage medium storing a program to be executed by a computer, the program causing the computer to perform the processes for: storing

information; identifying among the plurality of communication adapters installed in the system a communication adapter specified by a user as an adapter to be enabled; determining whether the plurality of communication adapters installed in the system is available; and enabling the communication adapter specified by the user if the communication adapter specified by the user is available.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 4 of page 16 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 1 is a diagram for illustrating a general configuration of a network connection system 10 to which the present embodiment is applied. A computer apparatus such as a notebook PC (not shown) comprising the system 10 is connected to one or more networks 9 (9-1 to 9-3) consisting of LAN segments through one or more communication adapters 20 (20-1 to 20-4). The computer apparatus uses the system 10 to select one of the communication adapters 20 (20-1 to 20-4). The system 10 comprises a communication adapter switching mechanism 5 and a hard disk drive (HDD) 14, which is a storage device for storing information about the configuration of the communication adapters 20. A switching operation is performed according to an event 4 corresponding to a user change operation. The communication adapter switching mechanism 5 comprises a utility 11 for controlling enabling/disabling of the communication adapter 20 and driver software 6 for communicating with the communication adapter 20. The utility 11 may include a setting unit 202, determination unit 204, input event receiving unit 206, connection recognition unit 208, open operation unit 210, priority connection unit 212, and

disabling unit 214 as shown in Figure 11. The driver software 6 comprises of an upper layer 7 and lower layer 8.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 20 of page 16 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The communication adapter 20 can use a NIC (Network Interface Card), for example, to connect to the network 9. The communication adapter 20 using the NIC is attached to an expansion slot (bus) of the computer apparatus and connects to a LAN cable. The communication adapter 20 is controlled by the driver software 6 to perform data transfer. The basic configuration of the communication adapter 20 includes an interface for connecting to an expansion bus of the computer apparatus, a controller for performing access control, and an interface for connecting to a network medium. Different boards are used depending on the type of the expansion bus such as ISA, PCI, or C bus.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 18 of page 17 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 2 is a block diagram showing a general configuration of the system 10 shown in **Figure 1**, implemented in a Microsoft Windows® operating system environment. The system 10 comprises a registry 12 for providing adapter configuration information for the HDD 14 of a utility 11. The HDD 14, which is a storage device, is configured as information storage and contains a profile 13 for maintaining information about each communication adapter 20 that is

successfully opened. The system 10 also comprises a BIOS (Basic Input/Output system) 15, which determines whether the docking station is connected to the computer apparatus, whether a LAN card and an AC power supply is attached to the computer apparatus, and whether a given key of the computer apparatus is depressed. The profile 13 stored in the HDD 14 contains communication adapter configuration information about locations where a user may connect to the network 9. For example, the user of a notebook PC with high portability may want to connect the notebook PC to the network 9 from a location such as an American corporation during a business trip, for example, besides the home base in Japan. According to the present embodiment, different items of information about the configuration of the communication adapter 20 are provided as the profile 13 for different locations (environments) so that these items of information can be stored on a location-by-location basis. This allows an adapter most suitable for the location chosen by the user to be selected, improving usability for the user.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 16 of page 18 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The system 10 also comprises a NDIS (Network Driver Interface Specification) compliant software driver 18, herein referred to as the NDIS 18. NDIS is an interface specification proposed by Microsoft Corporation for NIC software drivers. The NDIS 18 consists of a NDIS compliant wrapper 16, herein referred to as the NDIS wrapper 16 and a NDIS compliant mini-port 17 (17-1 to 17-4), referred to herein as the NDIS mini-port 17. The NDIS wrapper 16 may embody the upper layer 7 of the software driver 6 of Figure 1 while the NDIS mini-port 17 may

embody the lower layer 8 of the software driver of Figure 1. The NDIS wrapper 16 calls the NDIS mini-port 17 to read a handler. The communication adapters 20-1 to 20-4 are connected to the NDIS mini-port 17-1 to 17-4.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 2 of page 19 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The utility 11 has a user interface and an internal logic. The utility 11 may execute an Adapter Open operation 40, referencing the registry 12 to retrieve an adapter name for an installed communication adapter 20. For example, when an OS such as a Microsoft Windows® operating system is loaded, when an event indicating the connection of the docking station is provided from the BIOS 15, or when a window for the utility 11 is selected, the utility 11 executes the Adapter Open operation. The determination unit 204 executes an Adapter Open operation 40 that determines the number of available communication adapters 20 and which communication adapters 20 are enabled or disabled by using default priorities. An Adapter_Start operation 41 is provided to the NDIS wrapper 16 for enabling a communication adapter 20 and an Adapter_Stop operation 42 is provided to the NDSI wrapper 16 for disabling communication adapters 20. The NDIS wrapper 16 provides an Adapter Open operation 43, an Initialize operation 44, and a Shutdown operation 45 to the NDIS mini-port 17.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 14 of page 19 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The utility 11 supports a suspend operation 46 and a resume operation 47 that are compliant with the APM (Advanced Power Management) specification for power conservation. The suspend operation 46 temporarily halts operations with the execution state of a program being maintained and shuts down a device when no input is provided for a predetermined period of time. The resume operation 47 restores the state of a task that existed immediately before a shutdown so that the task can be resumed at the point of interruption when the device is turned on. The utility 11 inquires of the NDSI wrapper 16 to obtain the number and types of communication adapters 20 that are present in order to control the enabling/disabling of the communication adapters 20. The user interface of the utility 11 executes the suspend operation 46 to the NDIS wrapper 16 if a communication adapter 20 to be enabled has not been enabled previously. It executes the resume operation 47 to the NDIS wrapper 16 for a communication adapter 20 that is currently enabled and is to be disabled. The NDIS wrapper 16 calls the shutdown operation 45 of the NDIS mini-port 17 if it receives the suspend operation 46 or calls the initialization of the NDIS mini-port 17 if it receives the resume operation 47, thereby allowing the communication adapter 20 to be enabled/disabled. Because resources are released in a PC card by the suspend operation 46, a ReConfig operation 48 is required after the shutdown/initialization.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 12 of page 20 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 3 shows a process flow for dynamically selecting a communication adapter 20

during the load of an OS (the load of the utility 11). First, the utility 11 reads information about the configuration of all the communication adapters 20 configured in the system from the registry 12 (step 101). Then, it executes an Adapter Open operation 40 for all the communication adapters 20 (step 102), determining which communication adapters 20 are enabled. Typically, a device driver must be installed in order to use the communication adapter 20. If the communication adapter 20 is a PC card, the Adapter Open operation 40 determines whether the communication adapter 20 is physically present. Then, information about the communication adapter 20 that is successfully opened is stored in a profile 13 on an HDD 14 (step 103). The configuration information stored as a profile 13 includes an index, priority, adapter information (including LAN/modem information), and network information (including configuration information concerning TCI/IP) and can be set, added, or modified by a user when the communication adapter is configured/added or any other times. Next, priorities in the profile 13 are referenced (step 104). An Adapter_Start operation 41 is provided to the NDIS wrapper 16 in order to enable the top-priority communication adapter 20. The setting unit 202 provides an Adapter_Stop operation 42 to the NDIS wrapper 16 in order to disable the other communication adapters 20 (step 105). In this way, the communication adapter 20 to be used can be dynamically selected during loading the OS (loading the utility 11).

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 12 of page 21 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 4 shows a process flow for dynamically selecting a communication adapter 20 to

be used during the execution of an OS. When the utility 11 is opened, it first reads the profile 13 on the HDD 14 in a state where the Microsoft Windows® operating system is selected. Then the Adapter Open operation 40 is performed on communication adapters 20 in the profile 13 and only those communication adapters 20 installed in the current system are stored (step 112). Here, given that a PnP (plug-and-play) device is removed in the meantime, the Adapter Open operation 40 should be performed once again.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 1 of page 22 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Next, a currently enabled communication adapter 20 and disabled adapters 20 are displayed on the utility 11 (step 113). The utility 11 waits for a user attention or selection and the user selects a communication adapter 20 to be enabled (step 114). If the communication adapter 20 selected by the user is disabled, the utility 11 executes the Adapter_Start operation 41 through the NDIS wrapper 16 in order to enable it. At the same time, the utility 11 executes the Adapter_Stop operation 42 for communication adapters 20 that are not disabled in order to disable them (step 115).

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 8 of page 22 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 5 shows a process flow when the system 10 is connected with a docking station. The flow is a prioritizing logic for enabling a communication adapter 20 in the docking station in

preference to other communication adapters 20. First, information about the priority of communication adapters 20 stored in the HDD 14 as a profile 13 is read (step 121). Here, the priority is specified by the user. The communication adapter 20 in the docking station may be enabled in preference to the others during the docking if pre-assigned a high priority by the user. Then it is determined whether the system is docked in the docking station (step 122). If it is not docked, the normal dynamic selection as described earlier in Figure 4 is executed (step 123).

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 18 of page 22 with the following rewritten paragraph:

If it is determined at step 122 that the system is docked, the BIOS 15 receives a docking event and sends Notify Docking message 49 to the utility 11 (step 124). When the connection recognition unit 208 of the utility 11 receives the Notify Docking message 49 indicating that the system is docked, the open operation unit 210 executes an Adapter Open operation 40 for all the communication adapters 20 once again (step 125). If a communication adapter 20 is installed in the docking station, the total number of available communication adapters 20 would increase by one. Then the priority connection unit 212 of the utility 11 provides the Adapter_Start operation 41 to the NDIS wrapper 16 in order to enable the top-priority communication adapter 20 (step 126). At the same time, the disabling unit 214 of the utility 11 provides the Adapter_Stop operation 42 to the NDIS wrapper 16 in order to disable communication adapters 20 other than the top-quality communication adapter 20. By configuring the system 10 in this way, the communication adapter 20 in the docking station can be enabled in preference to the others if a

high priority is assigned to the communication adapter 20 installed in the docking station.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 11 of page 23 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The default priorities for selecting communication adapters 20 and support for docking is as follows. During hot- or warm docking, a dock configuration (DockConfig) event is received and the Adapter Open operation 40 is executed once again according to the default priorities. If a communication adapter 20 in the docking station is set as the top-priority adapter, the communication adapter 20 in the docking station is enabled and other communication adapters 20 are disabled to connect the system to a network through the communication adapter 20 in the docking station.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 19 of page 23 with the following rewritten paragraph:

While it is assumed that the top-priority communication adapter 20 is enabled and the other adapters are disabled at the same time in the process flows shown in **Figures 3, 4, and 5**, the number of communication adapters 20 enabled at the same time may be determined by a default setting. For example, if the default setting is to enable the two highest priority communication adapters 20, the two adapters 20 may be enabled and the other communication adapters 20 may be disabled.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 5 of page 24 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 6 shows a process flow for setting and updating default information. This default information is not necessarily required to be set. To set or update the default information, information about the configuration of all the communication adapters 20 configured in the system 10 is first read from a profile 13 stored in an HDD 14 (step 131). Then a location setting is received from a user (step 132). Then settings for default priority of communication adapters 20 to be enabled is received (step 133) and settings for the number of the communication adapters 20 to be enabled are received (step 134). Then the updated profile information is stored in the HDD 14 (step 135) to allow the default information to be set or updated. If the top priority in the priority setting is not assigned to a communication adapter 20 installed in a docking station, the feature for enabling the communication adapter 20 in the docking station in preference to the other adapters during docking would not work.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 1 of page 25 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 7 shows a flowchart of a process performed in response to the input event receiving unit 206 receiving an event 149 for creating a communication path. The event 149 is received and, in response to the event, all the communication adapters 20 are first disabled (step 141). The event 149 is registered beforehand. The event 147 may, for example, be generated when the system 10 is connected to a docking station, when a user annotation that invokes a

mechanism (the utility 11, for example) for switching between adapters 20, or when the system 10 moves to out of a wireless coverage area. Then, it is determined whether the process for all the adapters 20 completed or not (step 142). If the process for all the adapters 20 is not completed, setting information n is retrieved from the profile 13 (step 143). Then a relevant communication adapter 20 (communication adapter m) is opened according to the setting information n retrieved (step 144). Then, it is determined whether the adapter 20 is successfully opened or not (step 145) and, if successfully opened, the communication adapter 20 can be enabled (step 146). If not opened, the routine returns to step 142 and it is determined whether the process for all the communication adapters 20 is completed or not. If the process for all the communication adapters 20 is completed, it is assumed that open operations performed on all the adapters 20 registered for Open failed (NG), and therefore the process for the event 149 will end.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 21 of page 25 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 8 shows the user interface 60 for displaying a status and options. The interface 60 is displayed on a display of a notebook PC, for example, for enabling or disabling a communication adapter 20. In this example, indicators 32, which are radio buttons for indicating an active communication adapter 20, are displayed along with adapter icons 31, allowing a user to select a communication adapter 20 to be used for the current connection. The adapter icons 31 are labeled with the name of communication adapters 20 installed in the system. In this example, the following three communication adapters 20 are displayed: a Turbo 16/4 Token-ring PC card

61, which is a wired communication adapter, a wireless LAN PC card 62, and an Ether Jet PCI adapter 63, which is a wired communication adapter. Indicators 32 indicate whether the communication adapters 20 are currently enabled or disabled. It is indicated that the Ether Jet PCI adapter 63 is currently active. The user can select a desired communication adapter 20 to be enabled by clicking on the section (adapter icon 31 or indicator 32) of the adapter 20. Communication adapters 20 other than the selected adapter 20 can be disabled at the same time.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 16 of page 26 with the following rewritten paragraph:

That is, the indicators 32 function as a flip-flop. When one of the communication adapters 20 is selected, the communication adapter 20 is enabled and the other communication adapters 20 are automatically disabled. If the user wants to use a plurality of communication adapters 20, the user would select another adapter 20. This can be addressed by leaving enabled a communication adapter 20 selected after the user interface 60 is opened, enabling the next adapter 20 to be selected, and disabling the other adapters 20. According to the present embodiment, a function is provided that enables or disables all the adapters 20 as will be described hereafter.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 16 of page 27 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 9 shows a user interface 64 for prioritizing communication adapters 20 to be

enabled as displayed on the display of the notebook PC, for example. The user interface 64 shown in **Figure 9** is for determining the default priorities of communication adapters 20 to be enabled. In this example, priorities 33 are displayed along with the adapter icons 31 described with respect to **Figure 8**. If some of communication adapters 20 configured in the system 10 are installed and can be opened, the order in which those communication adapters 20 are enabled is determined in this user interface 64. In the example shown in **Figure 9**, priority levels 1, 2, and 3 are assigned to the communication adapters 20, from left to right. The priorities 33 for the communication adapters 20 can be set by dragging the adapter icons 31 to re-order them. The number, names, set priorities 33 of the communication adapters 20 are stored in an HDD 14 as a profile 13.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 16 of page 27 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 10 shows a user interface 65 for setting locations and default values and information displayed on the display of a notebook PC. In the user interface 65 shown in **Figure 10**, location information 34 can be set and options 35 can be set for each item of location information 34. Locations such as an office, home, and hotel can be entered as the location information 34. A setting 66 for enabling only one adapter 20 with the highest priority and disabling the other adapters 20, a setting 67 for enabling the two-highest-priority adapters 20 and disabling the other adapters 20, a setting 68 for enabling all the communication adapters 20, and a setting 69 for disabling all the communication adapters 20 can be selected from the options 35,

thus allowing a selection of the number of communication adapters 20 to be enabled. The user inputs information as the location information 34 using a keyboard and selects one of the options 35 using a pointing device. The specified location information 34 and option 35 are stored in respective profiles 13 created in an HDD 14.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 11 of page 28 with the following rewritten paragraph:

For example, communication adapters 20 are enabled according to the priorities set through the user interface 60 shown in **Figure 8**, for example. If the setting 66 for enabling only the highest-priority adapter and disabling the others is specified through the interface 65 of **Figure 10**, the communication adapter 20 of priority 1 is enabled and the other communication adapters 20 are disabled. If the communication adapter 20 of the highest priority cannot be opened, a communication adapter 20 of the next highest priority is enabled.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 18 of page 28 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In one example, an Ether Jet PCI adapter 63 is installed in a docking station, and a wireless LAN PC card 62 and a Turbo 16/4 Token-Ring PC card 61 are installed in a notebook PC. The top-priority (priority 1) is assigned to the Ether Jet PCI adapter card 63 and the second-priority (priority 2) is assigned to the wireless LAN PC card 62. By setting the priorities in this way, the top-priority Ether Jet PCI adapter 63 is used while the PC is connected to the docking

station, and the second-priority wireless LAN PC card 62 is used while the PC is not connected to the docking station.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 5 of page 29 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In addition, the user interface 60 for status indications and options shown in **Figure 8** allows a communication adapter 20 that is not selected to be dynamically selected to temporarily override the current setting. By temporarily overriding the setting, the PC can be explicitly connected to a particular network 9 connected through a particular adapter 20 for a certain period of time.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 10 of page 29 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Furthermore, in most cases, it may be sufficient that a single communication adapter 20 is enabled at a time in a system 10. However, if different networks 9 (networks 9-2 and 9-3, for example) are accessed through different communication adapters 20 (20-3 and 20-4) as shown in **Figure 1**, a user may want to copy data from one network 9 (9-2, for example) to the other network (9-3, for example). In such a case, more than one communication adapter 20 should be enabled. On the other hand, the user may want to enable all the communication adapters 20 to access all of the networks 9 to which the client can be connected, or the user may want to disable all of the communication adapters 20 for power saving. These demands can be met by settings

by using the options 35 in the user interface 65 shown in **Figure 10**.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 1 of page 30 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In one example, the communication adapter 20-1 shown in **Figure 1** is a wireless LAN PC card 62 and communication adapter 20-2 is an Ether Jet PCI adapter 63. If they access a server on the same network 9-1 as shown in **Figure 1**, it may be desired that one of the adapters 20, whichever can provide connection surely, be used to connect to the server. In such a case, one of the adapters 20 that can be opened may be used to access the server. However, if a Token-Ring PCI adapter 61 and an Ether Jet PCI adapter 63 are installed in one system 10, it is likely that these communication adapters 20 are installed because a user wants to access LANs using these different protocols at the same time. In such a case, both of the Token-ring and Ethernet protocols should be able to be used. The options 35 are provided for meeting such a demand. In addition, if networks 9 using a plurality of different protocols are accessed, both of the two communication adapters 20 should be enabled. The options 35 also can meet such a demand.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 14 of page 30 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A function of a computer apparatus, called "plug-and-play", is available that allows the functions of a newly connected device to be used first and foremost. According to the present

embodiment, if a new communication adapter 20 is added, the communication adapter 20 is set so as to be enabled (operable) unconditionally in order to maintain this "plug-and-play" functionality. The number of communication adapters 20 currently available is stored in a storage device such as an HDD 14 whenever an adapter 20 is opened so it can be determined if a new communication adapter 20 is added.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 1 of page 31 with the following rewritten paragraph:

As described above, according to the present invention, it is possible that only communication adapters 20 selected beforehand are enabled and the other communication adapters 20 are disabled automatically/dynamically. According to a prior art, if a notebook PC is configured to be connected to the same server over a network 9 in an environment where a plurality of communication adapters 20 such as a wireless LAN adapter and a wired Token-Ring or Ethernet adapter are installed in the notebook PC, it cannot be determined which communication adapter 20 is being used to communicate with the server. Also, even if the PC is configured to be connected to different servers, the communication adapter 20 being used to communicate with each server cannot be determined according to the prior art. Furthermore, if a user of the PC wants to access a server through the network 9 using a wired connection even though the PC is within the roaming coverage of a wireless LAN, conventional network operating systems do not allow such an option. The embodiment of the present invention, on the other hand, allows one communication adapter 20 to be enabled and the other communication

adapters 20 can be disabled at the same time, facilitating the selection of the communication adapter 20 to be used even in mixed environments of wireless and wired systems.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 18 of page 31 with the following rewritten paragraph:

For example, as many as five selection steps were required to enable/disable communication adapters 20 under the Microsoft Windows 95® operating system and the Microsoft Windows 98® operating system. That is, "Control panel", "System", "Device manager", "Network adapter", and "Enable in this hardware environment", were to be selected in this order. This is too cumbersome if the enable/disable operation should be performed many times a day. On the other hand, according to the present embodiment, a communication adapter 20 can be selected easily from the user interface 60 showing icons 31 indicating features of communication adapters 20 as shown in Figure 8.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 5 of page 32 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Furthermore, according to this embodiment, providing the default priority setting allows the communication adapter 20 installed in the docking station to be connected in preference to the other communication adapters 20, as well as the current connection can be dynamically selected, so that the adapters 20 other than the selected one can be dynamically disabled.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 10 of page 32 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In addition, even if a wired LAN controller does not support a power saving function without cables, power can be saved. Furthermore, when the system 10 is housed in a docking station, a communication adapter 20 in the docking station can be enabled in preference to other communication adapters 20 by providing enable priorities for the plurality of configured communication adapters 20.

Please replace the paragraph starting on line 15 of page 32 with the following rewritten paragraph:

As described above, according to the present invention, a plurality of communication adapters 20 installed in a portable information device or a computer apparatus such as a notebook PC can be dynamically enabled or disabled to use the enabled communication adapter 20 to communicate with an external entity.